

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 24, 27 and 30-31, and amend the claims as follows:

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for providing an indication of an annotation to a portion of a first view of data, comprising:

receiving an annotation to a portion of the first view of data, wherein a view of data is any collection of data containing a set of visible query-related sub-objects;

storing the annotation to the portion of the first view of data;

providing an interface ~~allowing~~ to allow display of a second view of data;

analyzing the second view of data to identify sub-objects visible in both the second view of data and the annotated portion of the first view of data; and

providing an indication of the annotation in the interface, only if a predetermined set of sub-objects visible in the second view of data are visible in the annotated portion of the first view of data, wherein providing an indication of the annotation in the interface comprises displaying an icon proximate one or more sub-objects visible in the second view of data that are also visible in the annotated portion of the first view of data.

10-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein more than one annotation is associated with one or more portions of data in the second view and separate icons for each annotation are displayed.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein:

the method further comprises displaying the annotation in response to a user selecting the icon.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising providing an indication of one or more sub-objects visible in the second view of data that are also visible in the annotated portion of the first view of data.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method of creating and displaying an annotation associated with an annotated portion of a first view of data, comprising:

providing an interface allowing selection of the annotated portion of the first view of data and creation of the annotation, wherein the annotated portion comprises at least two cells visible in the first view of data and wherein a view of data is any collection of data containing a set of visible query-related sub-objects;

creating an entry in a link table for each cell in the annotated portion, wherein the entry for each cell contains an indication of the annotations;

creating a record containing the annotation and a link to each cell in the annotated portion;

presenting a second view of data;

analyzing the second view of data to identify cells visible in both the second view of data and the annotated portion of the first view of data; and

providing an indication of the annotation, only if a predetermined set of cells visible in the second view of data are visible in the referenced portion of the first view of data.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the predetermined set of cells comprises at least one of:

all the cells visible in the annotated portion of the first view of data;

a predetermined number of cells visible in the annotated portion of the first view of data;

a specified set of cells visible in the annotated portion of the first view of data; and

a predetermined percentage of cells visible in the annotated portion of the first view of data.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the predetermined set of cells is specified by a user via the interface allowing selection of the annotated portion of the first view of data and creation of the annotation.

20. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising providing a mechanism for identifying the predetermined set of cells, wherein the mechanism is accessible by a human user or a software application.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the entry for each cell contains an identifier uniquely identifying the record containing the annotation.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein analyzing the second view of data to identify cells visible in both the second view of data and the annotated portion of the first view of data comprises:

querying the link table to identify one or more annotations describing views of data containing cells in the second view of data;

retrieving annotation records for the one or more identified annotations; and

identifying cells visible in both the second view of data and views described by the identified annotations, based on cell links stored in the retrieved annotation records.

24-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for providing an indication of an annotation to a portion of a first view of data, comprising:

receiving an annotation to a portion of the first view of data, wherein a view of data is any collection of data containing a set of visible query-related sub-objects;

storing a set of query-related sub-object links for the annotation to the portion of the first view of data;

providing an interface allowing to allow display of a second view of data;

analyzing the second view of data to identify sub-objects visible in both the second view of data and the annotated portion of the first view of data, comprising:

obtaining ~~[[a]]~~ the set of query-related sub-object links stored with the annotation; and

identifying query-related sub-objects identified by the query-related sub-object links that are visible in the second view of data, and

providing an indication of the annotation in the interface, only if a predetermined set of sub-objects visible in the second view of data are visible in the annotated portion of the first view of data.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein analyzing the second view of data to identify sub-objects visible in both the second view of data and the annotated portion of the first view of data further comprises:

obtaining, based on sub-objects visible in the second view of data, an indication of the annotation from a table; and

wherein obtaining a set of sub-object links stored with the annotation comprises retrieving a record containing the annotation and the sub-object links using the indication of the annotation obtained from the table.

34. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for providing an indication of an annotation to a portion of a first view of data, comprising:

receiving an annotation to a portion of the first view of data, wherein a view of data is any collection of data containing a set of visible query-related sub-objects;

storing the annotation to the portion of the first view of data;

providing an interface ~~allowing~~ to allow display of a second view of data;

analyzing the second view of data to identify sub-objects visible in both the second view of data and the annotated portion of the first view of data; and

providing an indication of the annotation in the interface, only if a predetermined set of sub-objects visible in the second view of data are visible in the annotated portion of the first view of data, and only if each sub-object visible in the annotated portion of the first view of data is visible in the second view of data.